Whenever we find time, we would ask you to come back. Is it regarding the deaths in Mumbai?

DR. C.P. THAKUR: Yes, Madam.

उपसभापति : आप पढ़ दीजिए।

DR. C.P. THAKUR: Madam,

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, can we get a copy of the statement?

उपसभापति : अभी आ रहा है। We are not discussing it now. **कॉपी अगर है** तो दे दीजिए।

DR. C.P. THAKUR: Madam,...

श्री के. रहमान खान (कर्णाटक) : शॉर्ट ड्यूरेशन है न?

उपसभापति : खाली स्टेटमेंट पढ़ रहे हैं। इसे डेफर करेंगे।

डॉ. सी.पी.ठाकुर : क्लेरिफिकेशन अभी करेंगे?

उपसभापति : नहीं, बाद में डेफर करके देंगे। Now you read the statement. बाद में आपको अनुमति देंगे जब यह हो जाएगा।

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Reported Leptospirosis outbreak in Maharashtra and Gujarat

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): Recently, practitioners from North-west of Mumbai and adjacent area from Thane District (Malad-Virar) as well as from Central part of Thane district (Kalyan),. reported increase in fever with a typical feature like bleeding and hepato-renal failure with involvement of lungs and high mortality. The practitioners from Mumbai suspected Leptospirosis. Immediately concerned officers from the State visited the places and carried out the basic investigation, including entomological studies and gave directions regarding control.

To meet the crisis a meeting of officers from Health Services, Medical Education and Research and Municipal Corporations was convened in the Directorate of Health Services, Mumbai on 29th July, 2000. The possibilities considered for increased fever cases were Leptospirosis,

Dengue Fever and P.falciparum. Technical guidelines for laboratory investigations and treatment were given all over the State. Medical Teams were formed to assess the extent of the outbreak, which have been functioning in the field. The State level rapid response team alongwith team from National Institute of Virology, Pune has already carried out investigations. For confirmation of Leptospirosis and investigating the outbreak, a team from the Indian Council of Medical Research has also reached Mumbai.

Cases and deaths from the reported leptospirosis from Maharashtra and *Gujarat* (As on 5 p.m., 2nd August, 2000)

Sl. No.	Status	Maharashtra		Gujarat	
		Reported Cases	Deaths	Reported Cases	Deaths
1.	**Total Cases**	250	6	61	8

* Of the 250 cases in Maharashtra laboratory confirmation was available in 65 cases.

Leptospirosis is a zoonotic bacterial disease caused by leptospires of which there are many sero-groups and serovars. A number of leptospirosis outbreaks have been reported in India in the past namely; Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. It causes a wide variety of clinical manifestations. Jaundice and haemorrhagic manifestations are present in typical cases. At times cases may be misdiagnosed as viral fever, dengue haemorrhagic fever, malaria, etc.

Mode of transmission

Contact with skin (with cuts and bruises) and mucous membrane with water *soil or* vegetation contaminated with urine of infected animals like rats, pigs, cattle, dogs, etc. leads to infection in man.